

Remarks

Claims 2-48 are pending in this application. Claims 2-48 stand rejected.

Claim 2 was objected to because of small informalities. These informalities have been addressed in this response. Claims 2-4, 8-15, 17, 20, 22-23, 25-29, 33-39, 41, and 45-47 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as anticipated by U.S. Patent Publication No. 2004/0083266 to Comstock et al. Claims 5 and 30 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as obvious over Comstock in light of U.S. Patent Publication No. 2002/0198978 to Watkins. Claims 6-7 and 31-32 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as obvious over Comstock in light of U.S. Patent Publication No. 2003/0084056 to DeAnna. Claims 16, 18-19, 21, 40, and 42-44 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as obvious over Comstock in light of U.S. Patent Publication No. 2004/0042547 to Coleman. Claims 24 and 48 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as obvious over Comstock in light of U.S. Patent Publication No. 2003/0055922 to Kim.

Claims 2-4, 7-8, 23, 25-29, and 32-33 have all been amended to more particularly point out Applicants' invention. Support for these changes may be found in the specification at least at page 25, lines 15-17 and in Fig. 1. Claims 2 and 25 are in independent form.

Applicants have carefully considered the positions of the Examiner, amended the claims accordingly, and respectfully submit that claims 2-48 are in condition for examination and allowance. The present invention is directed to a system that combines both serial access and KVM access into a single remote management unit and allows a user to switch between controlling a serial device such as a router or certain power supplies and a KVM device such as the majority of servers.

The remote management unit enables a user at the workstation to connect between the remote management unit and at least one remote device or the serial user interface of at least one remote serial device. As claimed, the present invention allows the remote management unit to be connected to standalone serial devices, such as routers and printers, at the same time it is connected to servers with KVM interfaces. In this way, the remote management unit is able to switch communications between the workstation and a device with a serial interface or a device with a KVM interface such as a server.

In contrast, Comstock teaches a system, apparatus, and method for managing media streams in a multimedia conferencing system according to media roles. Comstock does not contemplate a general purpose KVM system, but rather the use of a computer with a keyboard and mouse as part of a user interface to performs, and is limited to, specific functions in a multimedia conferencing system (see Paragraph 34). Comstock's user interface does not contemplate the viewing of a remote server's video output as if a user was local. Further, Comstock does not contemplate the control of generalized "serial devices" but rather specific types of media inputs or displays (see Paragraph 32). In addition, Comstock does not contemplate a general purpose remote management unit. Rather, Comstock describes a Multipoint Control Unit (MCU) to be used with its invention. AN MCU is a specialized device commonly used to bridge videoconferencing connections, and not a general technique of establishing remote control of servers or serial devices, wherein such remote control is as if the user was locally controlling.. As a highly specialized system, accordingly, Comstock does not anticipate claims 2, 8-15, 17, 22-23, 25-27, 33-39, 41, and 45-47.

Watkins teaches a system utilizing a remote control unit to remotely control and monitor remote devices and data. Watkins fails to teach or disclose, however, a remote management unit that simultaneously connects to devices with serial interfaces and devices with KVM interfaces, and the ability to switch the communications path from between the remote management unit and the serial device or the KVM device.

DeAnna teaches a lightweight application server for use on portable or embedded devices that includes an application manager and services containers. It does not teach a remote management unit simultaneously connected to serial and KVM devices with the ability to switch seamlessly between the two.

Coleman teaches a method and apparatus for digitizing and compressing video signals for transmission between a remotely located computer and a host or local computer. The digitization and compression method and apparatus is capable of dividing the frame buffers into cells and comparing image data from previously captured frame buffers to create synchronized video signals and transmit the video signals over an extended range by limiting the portions of the transmission bandwidth of pixel data transferred between the remote computer and the local computer. Nothing in Coleman teaches the limitations of the present invention.

Finally, Kim, fails to teach a remote management unit simultaneously connected to serial and KVM devices with the ability to switch between the two.

None of the art of record teaches a system that combines both serial access and KVM access into a single remote management unit and allows a user to switch between controlling a serial device such as a router or certain power supplies and a KVM device such as the majority of servers. For at least these reasons, it is believed clear that Claim 2 is allowable over the cited

references. Independent 25 contains similar limitations as those recited in Claim 2. Accordingly, it is believed that Claim 25 is allowable over the art of record for at least the same reasons set forth above with respect to Claim 2.

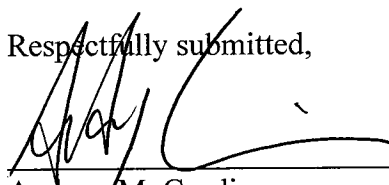
The other claims in this application are each dependent from one or another of the independent claims discussed above and are therefore believed patentable for at least the same reasons. Because each dependent claim is also deemed to define an additional aspect of the invention, however, the individual consideration or reconsideration, as the case maybe, of the patentability of each on its own merits is respectfully requested.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicants respectfully requests favorable reconsideration and allowance of the present application. No fee is believed due by this amendment. If, however, there are any unresolved issues or fees, it is requested that the Examiner contact Applicants' representative via telephone so that such issues can be quickly resolved. If there are any fees due the Examiner is hereby authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 03-3839 for any required fees.

Correspondence

Filed concurrently herewith is a request for a three -month extension of time to respond and the fee of \$1110.00. Please address all correspondence to the correspondent address for **Customer No. 26345 of Intellectual Docket Administrator, Gibbons P.C.**, One Gateway Center, Newark, NJ 07102. Telephone calls should be made to Andrew M. Grodin at (973) 596-4553 and fax communications should be sent directly to him at (973) 639-8355.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Andrew M. Grodin', is written over a horizontal line.

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